Minimal Arch Linux + Hyprland + SDDM Installation Guide

Goal

After completing this guide, you will have a clean Arch Linux setup with:

```
✓ Arch Linux
✓ Hyprland
✓ SDDM login screen
✓ Wi-Fi support
✓ Audio support
✓ Waybar
✓ Wofi
✓ Kitty
✓ Dolphin
✓ Wallpapers
✓ Nerd Fonts
```

No KDE Plasma. No GNOME. No giant dotfile installers.

---

1. Connect to the Internet

Test your connection:

```
ping archlinux.org
```

If using Wi-Fi:

```
iwctl
```

Inside `iwctl`:

```
device list
station wlan0 scan
station wlan0 get-networks
```

```
station wlan0 connect "YOUR_WIFI_NAME"
exit
```

Why?

Arch downloads packages directly from online repositories.

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2. Find Your Drive

```
lsblk
```

Example output:

```
sda
nvme0n1
```

Why?

Shows all storage devices connected to your computer.

Make sure you choose the correct drive.

---

3. Partition the Drive

```
cfdisk /dev/sdX
```

Replace `sdX` with your drive.

For UEFI systems:

Partition	Size
EFI System	512M
Linux Filesystem	Remaining Space

Select:

```
Write → Yes → Quit
```

Why?

EFI System Partition Stores boot files required by UEFI.

Linux Filesystem Partition Stores Arch Linux and your files.

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4. Format Partitions

Example:

```
mkfs.fat -F32 /dev/sdX1
mkfs.ext4 /dev/sdX2
```

Why?

FAT32 Required for UEFI booting.

EXT4 Stores your Linux filesystem.

---

5. Mount Partitions

```
mount /dev/sdX2 /mnt

mkdir /mnt/boot
mount /dev/sdX1 /mnt/boot
```

Why?

Tells the installer where Arch Linux should be installed.

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6. Install the Base System

```
pacstrap /mnt base linux linux-firmware
```

Packages

Package	Purpose
`base`	Essential Linux utilities
`linux`	Linux kernel
`linux-firmware`	Firmware for hardware devices

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7. Install Essential Packages

```
pacstrap /mnt networkmanager grub efibootmgr sudo nano
```

Packages

Package	Purpose
`networkmanager`	Networking and Wi-Fi
`grub`	Bootloader
`efibootmgr`	Registers GRUB with UEFI
`sudo`	Administrative privileges
`nano`	Simple text editor

---

8. Generate fstab

```
genfstab -U /mnt >> /mnt/etc/fstab
```

Why?

Defines which partitions should automatically mount during boot.

---

9. Enter the Installed System

```
arch-chroot /mnt
```

Why?

Switches into your newly installed Arch environment.

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10. Set Timezone

For Indonesia:

```
ln -sf /usr/share/zoneinfo/Asia/Jakarta /etc/localtime

hwclock --systohc
```

Why?

Ensures your system displays the correct time.

---

11. Configure Locale

Edit:

```
nano /etc/locale.gen
```

Uncomment:

```
en_US.UTF-8 UTF-8
```

Generate locales:

```
locale-gen
```

Set the default locale:

```
echo "LANG=en_US.UTF-8" > /etc/locale.conf
```

Why?

Provides UTF-8 support and prevents locale-related warnings.

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12. Set Hostname

```
echo "arch" > /etc/hostname
```

Why?

Gives your computer a network name.

Example:

```
excello@arch
```

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13. Configure Hosts File

Edit:

```
nano /etc/hosts
```

Add:

```
127.0.0.1   localhost
::1         localhost
127.0.1.1   arch.localdomain   arch
```

Why?

Allows the system to resolve its own hostname correctly.

---

14. Set Root Password

```
passwd
```

Why?

Protects the administrator account.

15. Create a User

Replace `excello` with your username:

```
useradd -m -G wheel excello

passwd excello
```

Why?

A regular user account is safer for daily use.

---

16. Enable sudo

```
EDITOR=nano visudo
```

Uncomment:

```
%wheel ALL=(ALL:ALL) ALL
```

Why?

Allows users in the `wheel` group to use `sudo`.

---

17. Install GRUB

```
grub-install --target=x86_64-efi --efi-directory=/boot --bootloader-id=GRUB

grub-mkconfig -o /boot/grub/grub.cfg
```

Why?

GRUB allows your computer to boot Arch Linux.

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18. Install Hyprland Desktop

```
pacman -S sddm hyprland hyprpaper kitty waybar wofi dolphin network-manager-applet pipewire pipewire-pulse wireplumber ttf-jetbrains-mono-nerd polkit-kde-agent
```

Packages

Package	Purpose
`sddm`	Graphical login manager
`hyprland`	Wayland compositor
`hyprpaper`	Wallpaper manager
`kitty`	Terminal emulator
`waybar`	Status bar
`wofi`	Application launcher
`dolphin`	File manager
`network-manager-applet`	Wi-Fi tray applet
`pipewire`	Audio server
`pipewire-pulse`	PulseAudio compatibility
`wireplumber`	Audio session manager
`ttf-jetbrains-mono-nerd`	Fonts and icons
`polkit-kde-agent`	Authentication dialogs

---

19. Enable Services

```
systemctl enable NetworkManager

systemctl enable sddm
```

Why?

NetworkManager Automatically manages network connections.

SDDM Starts the graphical login screen during boot.

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20. Finish the Installation

```
exit

umount -R /mnt

poweroff
```

Remove the USB drive after shutdown.

---

21. First Boot

Boot sequence:

```
Power Button
      ↓
     UEFI
      ↓
     GRUB
      ↓
     SDDM
      ↓
Select Hyprland
      ↓
     Login
      ↓
   Desktop
```

No need to type:

```
Hyprland
```

on every startup.

SDDM launches Hyprland automatically.

Final Package List

```
base
linux
linux-firmware

networkmanager
grub
efibootmgr
sudo
nano

hyprland
hyprpaper
kitty
waybar
wofi
dolphin

pipewire
pipewire-pulse
wireplumber

network-manager-applet
polkit-kde-agent

ttf-jetbrains-mono-nerd

sddm
```

This setup gives you a clean, lightweight Arch + Hyprland desktop with a graphical login screen while remaining significantly smaller than KDE Plasma or GNOME.